

blame somebody else.” You’ve lived the culture of personal responsibility, of being responsible for something greater than yourself. That’s what the firefighter does. And making the sacrifice and risking your life, you’re a part of a movement, of a culture that says, “It’s important to serve something greater.”

That was best seen in Flight 93. It’s one of the moments that I’ll never forget—when brave men and women on a flight were told via telephone on the plane that America was under attack and they, themselves, had become a weapon. They said to their loved ones—they told their loved ones they loved them; they said a prayer; one guy said, “Let’s roll;” and they drove an airplane in the ground, to serve something greater than themselves in life.

Out of this evil will come incredible good in America. Out of the evil done to our country will come more peace in the world, a culture of personal responsibility, a willingness to serve something greater than ourselves in life. The enemy thought they hit a weak Nation, but instead, they hit the greatest Nation on the face of the Earth. And it is my honor to be the President of the greatest Nation.

Thank you all. May God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:08 p.m. in the International Ballroom at the Washington Hilton Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Hal Bruno, chairman, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation; R. David Paulison, U.S. Fire Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency; Daniel A. Nigro, chief, Fire Department of New York City; Ed Plaughner, chief, Arlington County Fire Department, Arlington, VA; and Terry Shaffer, chief, Shanksville Volunteer Fire Department, Shanksville, PA.

Memorandum on Foreign Assistance to Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Tajikistan

April 18, 2002

Presidential Determination No. 2002–15

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Eligibility of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Tajikistan to Receive Defense Articles and Services under the Foreign Assistance Act and the Arms Export Control Act

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 503(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and section 3(a)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, I hereby find that the furnishing of defense articles and services to the Governments of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Tajikistan will strengthen the security of the United States and promote world peace.

You are hereby authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 19.

Memorandum on Emergency Military Assistance to the Government of Nigeria

April 18, 2002

Presidential Determination No. 2002–16

Memorandum for the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense

Subject: Determination to Authorize the Furnishing of Emergency Military Assistance to the Government of Nigeria

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by section 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, 22 U.S.C.

2318(a)(1) (the “Act”), I hereby determine that:

- (1) an unforeseen emergency exists that requires immediate military assistance to the Government of Nigeria; and
- (2) the emergency requirement cannot be met under the authority of the Arms Export Control Act or any other law except section 506(a) of the Act.

I therefore direct the drawdown of defense articles and defense services from the Department of Defense, and military education and training, of an aggregate value not to exceed \$4 million, to provide assistance to the Government of Nigeria.

The Secretary of State is authorized and directed to report this determination to the Congress and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

George W. Bush

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 19.

Remarks and an Exchange With Reporters in Beltsville, Maryland

April 19, 2002

Death of Canadian Troops in Afghanistan

The President. I want to say publicly what I told Jean Chretien the other day, that how sorry I am that Canadian soldiers lost their lives in Afghanistan. It was a terrible accident, and parents and loved ones of the soldiers have my most heartfelt sympathy. And I wish we could bring them back, but we can't.

I appreciate so very much our sacrifices that the Canadians are making in the war against terror. And again, sorry this accident took place.

Q. Sir, should there have been better communication between the——

The President. We'll find out. We'll find out what took place. It's just a terrible accident.

Situation in the Middle East

Q. Some international groups criticized conditions in some of the camps in Palestine as horrific.

The President. Well, we'll find—again, I think there's a—I share a deep concern about the humanitarian plight of people who live in that region. Obviously, I worry about families whose lives have been affected by the terror. I think it's very important for all of us as we—work toward a vision of peace to understand that we must provide hope where there is no hope, provide an opportunity where there seems to be no opportunity; that the best way for a lasting peace is for countries in the regions to uphold their responsibilities and remember that a peaceful situation requires there to be an opportunity for the Palestinians, peace for the Israelis. I am concerned about the living conditions of people throughout the region, and all governments have responsibilities for those living conditions.

I worry about high unemployment rate in countries in the region. And I worry about the fact that some young feel like they have no hope, and we need to work together to provide hope. Part of a lasting peace is for there to be hope in the region.

Energy Legislation

Q. Mr. President, will you sign an energy bill without ANWR?

The President. There is a energy bill with ANWR passed by the House, an energy bill without ANWR passed by the Senate—soon to be energy bill without ANWR passed by the Senate. And we'll see what happens. I do think it is very important for the American people to understand we need more supply to offset the national security risk of importing oil from parts of the world that do not like America. And I am confident we can find more supply in an environmentally friendly way.

President's Visit to James J. Rowley Training Center

Q. Tell us about your visit this morning. We understand you got behind the wheel.

The President. I did get behind the wheel.

Q. How did it go?

The President. Have you ever done a J-turn before?

Q. No, sir.

The President. I have. [Laughter]